

Alabama Board of Nursing
Otolaryngology Specialty Protocol
for Nurse Practitioners

Practice Settings: Restricted to Otolaryngology practice

Population Foci: Adult Acute Care, Pediatric Acute Care, Adult Care, Family, Adult Gerontology Acute Care, and Pediatric.

1. The CRNP must submit an online application to the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN), to request the Otolaryngology Specialty Protocol:

a. [Modify an Existing Application](#)

OR

b. [Add New Collaboration](#)

2. Submit [Application for Privilege to Perform Skill or Procedure in Collaborative Practice](#) to ABN for each skill you wish to perform. *[Physician must submit Otolaryngology Procedures Request to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ABME)].*

3. The submitted application and skill request(s) are reviewed by the ABN, Joint Committee for Advanced Practice Nursing, and ABME. **After authorization**, the CRNP may perform supervised procedures and accumulate documentation to complete the initial approval process. *[The CRNP may check [My Profile](#) for Status of Protocol (authorization)].*

4. Documentation of supervised practice for additional procedures must be submitted to the ABN and ABME for review. [Supervised Practice Documentation Form](#)

**SUPERVISED PRACTICE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN ONE YEAR OF
APPROVAL TO TRAIN OR APPROVAL TO TRAIN WILL LAPSE.**

5. The CRNP and collaborating physician must maintain documentation of procedures performed annually and provide the documentation upon the request of either Board.

6. As with all aspects of nursing practice, the CRNP who lacks current proficiency is responsible and accountable for obtaining sufficient guidance, education, or supervision, as necessary for safe practice prior to independently performing a procedure authorized by the Specialty Protocol.

Requirements for Otolaryngology Skills

Procedures included:

1. Flexible Fiberoptic Diagnostic Laryngoscopy/Stroboscopy
2. Flexible Nasopharyngoscopy
3. Diagnostic Nasal Endoscopy (flexible and rigid)

Initial Requirements:

- Restricted to Otolaryngology practice.
- CRNP has worked in the clinical setting of otolaryngology for no less than six months prior to making a request to train.
- CRNP has observed no fewer than 150 of each procedure requested (including normal/abnormal tissue distinction) **prior to** requesting authorization to train to perform the procedure.
- Collaborating physician completes a request to train after observation period is completed.

Supervised Practice Requirements:

- CRNP will perform and document 25 proctored procedures for initial certification**.
- CRNP will perform and document no fewer than 25 procedures yearly to maintain certification.

**Supervised practice must be submitted within one year of approval to train.